

## Stamp Collecting - (Foundation – Year Two) Lesson One

### Stamp Collecting Overview

Stamp collecting is a popular hobby in Australia and around the world and the educational benefits are invaluable. Collecting stamps as a hobby encourages self-directed learning and can foster essential skills, behaviours and dispositions such as reasoning, logic, resourcefulness and goal setting. Stamp collecting encourages students to question, compare, analyse, sequence and be inquisitive all while having fun! Every stamp tells a story and Australia Post's stamp series, releases and collections are a rich and engaging way to learn about Australian history and culture. These lesson plans have been developed to introduce your students to the concept of stamps and stamp collecting whilst teaching themes and content descriptions from the Australian Curriculum.

### Lesson overview

This lesson has been developed to introduce students to the hobby of stamp collecting. As a class students will investigate the use and history of stamps and why people like to collect them. Students will work in groups to design and make their own stamp album and inspire the start of their own collection.

### Learning intention

Students will:

- Investigate the history of stamps
- Compare, analyse and classify themed stamps
- Understand that history can be communicated through photographs and drawings on stamps
- Jointly construct a stamp collecting album.

### Resources

1. Internet access for students
2. Magnifying glasses
3. Example of a stamp album
4. A4 paper for creating a stamp album
5. Examples of postage stamps, brought in from home (can be used). Australia Post sells packs of 100 used stamps in store or online at <https://shop.auspost.com.au/product/pack-of-100-used-australian-stamps-15141081>
6. Printed pictures of stamps or access for students to view online - <https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues>

### Assessment

- Monitoring understanding throughout class discussion and questioning
- Collecting work samples
- Student self-assessment
- Peer Assessment
- Teacher feedback

### Differentiation

**Support:** Research is conducted as a whole class.  
**Structured:** Use small group instruction to help support students construct their stamp album.  
**Extension:** Students investigate other themes on stamps.

### Australian Curriculum Links

**Foundation - Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)**

*History*

- How the stories of families and the past can be communicated, for example, through photographs, artefacts, books, oral histories, digital media and museums

#### **(ACHASSK013) Foundation - English**

##### *Literacy:*

- Create short texts to explore, record and report ideas and events using familiar word and beginning writing knowledge **(ACELY1651)**

#### **Foundation – The Arts**

##### *Visual Arts:*

- Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience **(ACAVAM108)**

#### **Year One - Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)**

##### *History*

- Differences and similarities between students' daily lives and life during their parents' and grandparents' childhoods **(ACHASSK030)**

#### **Year One - English**

##### *Literacy:*

- Create short imaginative and informative texts that show emerging use of appropriate text structure, sentence-level grammar, word choice, spelling, punctuation and appropriate multimodal elements, for example illustrations and diagrams **(ACELY1661)**

#### **Year 1 – The Arts**

##### *Visual Arts:*

- Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience **(ACAVAM108)**

#### **Year Two - Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)**

##### *History*

- How changing technology affected people's lives (at home and in the ways they worked, travelled, communicated and played in the past) **(ACHASSK046)**

#### **Year Two - English**

##### *Literacy:*

- Create short imaginative, informative and persuasive texts using growing knowledge of text structures and language features for familiar and some less familiar audiences, selecting print and multimodal elements appropriate to the audience and purpose **(ACELY1671)**

#### **Year 2 – The Arts**

##### *Visual Arts:*

- Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience **(ACAVAM108)**

#### **General Capabilities**

Intercultural Understanding	Personal and Social Capability
Literacy	Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Capability
Critical and Creative Thinking	

#### **Lesson introduction**

**10 mins**

1. Ask the students to think about what the word 'collect' means. Ask for student answers and have a discussion about collecting. What do people collect? Why do they collect things? Do they own a collection of anything? Ask students to share information on any collections they have or people in their family have.
2. Have a discussion about what the word hobby means and talk about how people all over the world love to collect things as a hobby. Tell the students that today they will be learning about stamp collecting and why people all over the world love to collect them.

3. Ask the students to think about what stamps are and how we use them. Give them the opportunity to share their knowledge on what they already know about stamps, what they are used for, where they see them being used and where they can be bought. As a class, visit (link to Australia Post stamp collecting information) and read 'A brief history'. After reading, allow students to ask questions about what they have read, if any questions require further research, write them down for students to research in future lessons.

#### Main body of teaching

30 mins

4. Show the students <https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues> , with Australia Post's recent Australian stamp issues. If enough devices are available, give the students time to explore the site in groups.
5. Tell the students that each of these stamps have themes and can be categorised differently. Ask students for suggestions on how they can be categorised. Examples of headings could be – transport, flowers, animals, people, countries, Indigenous culture, Christmas.
6. Place students into groups of 4 or 5 and give each group some examples of used postage stamps (they may have brought in their own from home). Explain to the students that they are going to work in their groups to classify the stamps into themes. Give the pictures of the stamps to each group and ask them to sort the stamps, tell them they will need to give reasons for why they have chosen to sort them into particular themes. Ask them to look closely at the stamps (they can use magnifying glasses if available) and take note of the features of the stamps. Ask them to identify what the stamps all have in common. i.e. 'Australia' written somewhere on it, the price, the date (can this be easily seen?)
7. Give the groups the opportunity to report back to the class. They may find that there were stamps left over that did not fall into their themes, ask for these stamps to be put aside.
8. Once the students have reported back, explain that they are going to make their own stamp albums to put the stamps they have classified in. Show the students an example of a stamp album if possible and discuss how they might create their own with A4 paper. Show students how to fold the paper to create a booklet and explain that they will need a cover page and titles at the top of each page that describes their chosen theme.
9. Give students time to create their own stamp album, they might glue their stamps into their album or use blu tack so their stamps can be moved around.
10. While the students are creating their albums, encourage them to talk to other groups and swap stamps with each other to add to the themes in their albums.

#### Plenary

10 mins

11. Once students have finished their albums, give each group the opportunity to present them to the class. Each group is to explain the themes that they chose and communicate the interesting thing they discovered in the lesson.
12. Give students the opportunity to continue collecting and adding to their albums throughout the school year. Students may design and draw their own stamps to add to their chosen theme in their album.